Between the Lines

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Moving Spotlight

Survey on War Guilt

Americans are keeping remarkably level heads in spite of all the propaganda, official and unofficial, heaped upon them. This opinion is supported by the results of a recent National Opinion Research Survey. The survey revealed that only 2 per cent of the American people believe that all the German people should be blamed and held responsible for the war-time cruelties and atrocities of the Nazis and should be made to pay for them, 58 per cent feel that the Nazi leaders alone should be held responsible, and 38 per cent feel that the German people have been victimized by their leaders but also that they have shared in the guilt of their leadership and should be held accountable for it. Since this survey, which has been either suppressed or ignored by the general press, was conducted on a nation-wide basis, we believe it is an encouraging indication that the leaven of Christian tolerance and thought is still deeply influential in American life.

Peace-Time Conscription

The situation on post-war conscription legislation has changed materially in past weeks. Formerly all indications were that a concerted drive would get the measure through Congress almost immediately. The imminence of this seemed to galvanize the American public into action. Within the past month statements of opposition to passage of such legislation during the war have been issued by the Federal Council of Churches, the archbishops and bishops of the Catholic Church, the Y.M.C.A. National Board, powerful segments of the labor movement and, most important of all, from the people back home in the Congressional districts.

Revenue for Religion

A United Press story which appeared recently perhaps reveals why the Church of England has been able to exert so little influence on new generations. It has been learned that Church of England officials are hoping that the

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THERE CAN BE NO real military victory in this war until there has been a moral victory. And no intelligent mind can scan the records of this conflict without realizing that our military leadership has outclassed our moral leadership. The brave boys in brown and blue are dragging through their hard fought battles the dead weight of political failures which are intrinsically based on the moral sins of selfishness and greed. Boys who are too young really to know sin must die to protect sophisticated elderly men who have grown callous to sin.

X-Ray and Forecast

As you follow the headlines now you should realize that the whole war outlook has shifted. The Germans caught the Allied nations completely off balance, as explained in our last issue, and have followed up this advantage with skill and daring. Censorship has kept the public from knowing what this is really going to mean.

Casualties

For instance, high officials in Washington are openly admitting that our casualties have now jumped to such an unexpectedly high figure that they will likely total 1,400,000 in a year, if the war should last that long. That will mean 500,000 dead—approximately 70,000 soldiers died in the last war.

Inflation

Also a real war-time inflation is now developing in this country in spite of all government controls. It will bring very serious consequences to the millions of citizens who work for fixed salaries. As money in circulation spirals to new heights of volume, a rush to buy durable goods will develop, money will then inevitably cheapen and any kind of goods will become dear. Unless the war in Europe can be ended within two or three months, which is unlikely, America is going to see something of what Europe has suffered for the past five years in economic displacement, thriving black markets and similar problems.

Help Wanted

Most of us realize that such conditions have already in a way caused a scarcity of help of all kinds. We hear that it has been so hard to get typists in Washington that employers now put a job applicant in a room with a washboard, a sewing machine and a typewriter. If she picks up the typewriter, she's hired!

Why?

Censorship is preventing the American people from knowing WHY the war in Europe did not end in late 1944 and is going on into 1945 with ever-increasing cost and sorrow. American military leaders in Europe are not to blame although that criticism is now being implied. Churchill and Eden control certain leading papers in England and these have been throwing up a smoke screen. They demand that overburdened General Eisenhower be relieved of part of his responsibilities, thus creating the impression that the military set back was due to the failure of American military leadership. In this country the American people are being deceived as to where the trouble lies by official silence in Washington and the fact that most of the American press and radio is controlled by large financially powerful blocs that play hand-in-glove with the financial citadels of London. The fault does not lie with Eisenhower or with any other American military leader, the failure has been higher up—a political failure, a moral failure is costing the lives of thousands of American boys.

How

The shameless betrayal of the Atlantic Charter which offered hope to all conquered and suppressed people and the blatant discard of all ideological

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Moving Spotlight

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House of Lords will appoint a commission to investigate immorality on church property—some $280,000 a year is received by the Church as income on tracts of London property which abound in brothels! The London Diocese, therefore, adopted a report urging a parliamentary inquiry and stringent law enforcement in order to clear church-owned real estate of immorality.

According to the Bishop of London, the tainted money is received from "respectable people" who rent the property from the Church and then accept the questionable tenants. Of course the Church defends itself by pointing out that, under the circumstances, it is powerless to stop this traffic since, in London, prostitution is not a crime. Just the same, British youth has been aware for years that the Church has collected large rental sums annually from property devoted to prostitution.

Negroes in the CIO

The largest labor union in the nation is the United Auto Workers Union (CIO) with headquarters in Detroit. This great union is now taking a strong leadership in promoting racial equality among workers. Fourteen Negro men and women are placed in positions of importance and responsibility within the union organization. Some of the Negro members are international representatives, others are specialists in field organization and production.

An interesting fact concerning the UAW is that thousands of its members are southerners who moved into northern industrial areas since 1940 and have come under the powerful influence of the CIO educational propaganda. This program, whether we like it or not, is a very influential force in race relations in the nation today.

Churchmen and Workers

The recent efforts of labor unions to gain the sympathetic recognition and guidance of the church has again been high lighted by the extension of the CIO's department of church relations' effort to enroll four or five thousand clergymen and Christian laymen of America in a national fellowship which,

X-Ray and Forecast

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aims have done two things: driven the German people, millions of whom were in rebellion against the Nazis, into a new desperate unity of defense; destroyed the liberated people's feelings of loyalty, gratitude and cooperation toward the Allies—witness the unspeakably deplorable situation in Italy and Greece.

In all of this we must keep our view of President Roosevelt's part clear and fair. While Stalin and Churchill have openly and aggressively sabotaged the hope of an early victory and a durable peace, we believe Roosevelt has been reluctantly and unwittingly dragged into the present discouraging situations. He is, however, responsible for having agreed to give Stalin and Churchill a free hand in Poland and the Balkans, in Greece and Italy, even although he apparently did not realize with what ruthless political indecency they would move.

Eastern Campaign

The big question in Washington, concerning which you hear only whispers in the press, is when will the Russian Army strike at Germany proper? Why are the Russians fighting so savagely in Hungary while doing nothing in Poland since the siege of Warsaw? Our readers will remember that months ago we said, "Watch that Russian Army for signs of things to come." Since then the Soviet has carved out its spheres of influence in the Balkans and in the Baltic and has made little, if any, advance toward Germany proper.

Our listening posts advise us that there are indications that Stalin may try to avoid trampling German soil under Soviet feet. Let the Americans and the British do that—and let the German people hate **them** for it! Russia would then be in a strong position to win German allegiance for the continuation of the mad game of spheres of influence that Russia and Britain are playing. Keep a sharp eye at that point. Big issues are at stake.

Germany and Europe

Winston Churchill said in November, 1939, "There shall be no dictated peace. We have no desire to humiliate, crush or defeat the German nation. Peace, to be lasting, must result from the agreement of all and not from the dictation of a few nations." Since then official policies have completed a full swing of the pendulum. We print here a statement secured by the Worldover Press from one of America's most eminent educators and historians, Dr. Felix Morley, President of Haverford College. Dr. Morley, we believe, presents the most sane, scholarly, yet Christian viewpoint on the peace that we have read. He says:

"It is a curious and disturbing fact that many Americans who claim to have an international outlook nevertheless fail utterly to apply that viewpoint to the issue of the treatment of Germany, when finally defeated. Germany is, and will remain, the core of western Europe. If the German economy, as distinct from the Nazi political leadership, is destroyed, that destruction will permanently injure the entire continent. Every American can see that if the industry of Pennsylvania were destroyed, the effect on New York, Ohio, New Jersey, Maryland, and Delaware would be disastrous. The case for Germany and its neighbors would be parallel.

"The Morgenthau and kindred plans are at the height of isolationism. They utterly repudiate Mr. Willkie's incontrovertible argument that we live in 'One World' where the wreckage of a part means injury to the whole. In the treatment of defeated Germany we must, in spite of the very human urge for revenge, assume something more constructive than such an isolationist viewpoint.

"The issue is not that of a 'hard' versus a 'soft' peace. The issue is whether the terms imposed on a defeated enemy will permit European recovery, or will doom all of that continent to ultimate destruction by fatal injury to its industrial heart. The economy of central Europe can and must be supervised and controlled. It cannot, and must not, be destroyed."

effort to enroll four or five thousand clergymen and Christian laymen of America in a national fellowship which, together with representatives of labor, would promote progressive political action. Branches of the fellowship are to be organized throughout the country to hold conferences and discussion forums between churchmen and representatives of labor.

This effort, it is understood, will be associated with the Political Action Committee of the CIO which was widely recognized as the most powerful force instrumental in the reelection of Roosevelt. It has been emphasized, however, that the expanded program is to be strictly non-partisan. Its interests will be focussed on progressive and forward-looking political action of all kinds. Whatever the Christian layman's viewpoint may be concerning labor or the present political situation, he does not dare remain indifferent to such developments.

Corroboration

The new book by George P. Howard, "Religious Liberty in Latin America," provides abundant documentary evidence of Roman Catholic abuse and persecution of Protestants in Latin America. Between the Lines has repeatedly reported on this situation to its readers during the past three years although news of it has been thoroughly suppressed in the usual news channels.

Church Merger in Russia

Authentic reports have reached America that the Baptist and Evangelical groups in Russia have formed a merger, thus giving evidence that church and religious organizations in the Soviet are moving along in the open. Both the Baptist and Evangelical Churches have congregations established widely throughout Russia; in Moscow, Leningrad, the Ukraine, White Russia, the Caucasus, Siberia, the Volga region, the Crimea and Kazakhstan.

New Influence in Mexico

A new political party has appeared in Mexico composed of Catholic leaders and well known fascist sympathizers. This party has as its platform opposition to all labor unions, destruction of all Protestantism and a general anti-United States policy.

ARE WE LISTENING?

It is hard for us to realize how much America is favored above all nations. While thousands of homes have been stricken with grief, yet as a nation, in contrast to the fate of Europe and Asia, our abundance continues to surpass anything in history. God has given us these blessings, not for our own selfish indulgence, but as a trusteeship which we dare not betray. As suffering increases over the earth, a nail-pierced hand touches us and we hear the voice . . . "unto the least of these . . . "

Biting the Hand . . .

Did you know that the money, food and materials that America has poured into Italy have been under almost complete control of the British and have been used freely to promote the return of the monarchy and maintain the grip of the aristocracy which 95 per cent of all Italians hate intensely? The result is that Italians hate Americans as much as they hate the British, and the war against the Nazis drags on interminably in sullen Italy.

Vatican vs Moscow

Catholic pressure on the American press has kept you from knowing that the Catholic Church and Russia have declared war anew on each other. Repeated denouncements of each other appear in Rome and Moscow. As we have indicated in several of our reports to you, America will now for some months to come be under a growing pressure of propaganda from both sources. The British and Dutch empire interests, so strongly represented in Wall Street and Washington, are cooperating with the Vatican in this propaganda war; American liberals and left wingers, many of whom also are in Washington, are pushing the Soviet viewpoint.

Intrigue on Spain

Spain is seething. Franco is known to be giving open and extensive aid to the Nazis, nevertheless, Britain and the Vatican are just as openly supporting him. Apparently de Gaulle, while in Moscow, made agreements with Stalin concerning Spain and Franco which caused considerable uneasiness in Rome and London. London official circles believe that Churchill is now working toward the idea of presenting some form of the old Spanish monarchy to the Spanish people when Franco falls. As we have reported to our readers before, Churchill, unable to check the socialistic trend in Europe which of course is being constantly promoted by Soviet influence, has been trying to counteract it by promoting the fortunes of the retired monarchs wherever such royalty has been sufficiently harmless and popular to be acceptable to the people. Churchill hopes, in this way at least, to make the revolutionary trends of Europe conform to a pattern that imperialistic Britain can still work with.

What Price Votes?

Disillusioned Jewish leaders are circulating statements showing the letter that President Roosevelt sent to the Convention of the Zionist Organizations of America, which met shortly before election, pledging his support, if reelected, to the Jewish goal of a free and democratic Jewish commonwealth in Palestine. This letter is placed beside the revelation that Roosevelt used his personal pressure after election to get the Congressional committee considering a vote of support for Jewish Palestinian hopes to shelve all action indefinitely so that no further light might fall upon the British government's sell-out of Jewish hopes for continued access to Arabian oil.

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Women and Medicine

Women with scientific ability now have the opportunity to study at one of the country's finest medical schools. Although women were admitted to the Harvard graduate schools of architecture, public health, education and public administration, the medical school excluded them for 162 years. For 97 of those 162 years Harvard authorities have debated the bar raised against women medical students, and only now has the board of overseers, urged by the faculty and stirred into action by the fact that the war is increasing the need for well-trained women doctors to replace the men physicians serving in the armed forces, agreed to open the doors of Harvard Medical School to women.

Yet, in spite of such relaxation of hoary prejudices, the authorities at leading medical schools evidence a hypocritical attitude toward women applicants. While there is no out-and-out discrimination, the obstacles to women, such as getting internships and residences for graduate training, are graphically portrayed and encouraging aspects of a medical career correspondingly played down. The New York Times after a nation-wide survey of leading medical schools reports: "Deans interviewed, while denying for the most part that any discrimination was shown against accepting women students, showed no intention of encouraging women to take medical training."

And at the same time the American Medical Association points with genuine concern to the fact that the enrollment of students in medical schools in 1945 is expected to take a drop of 25 to 30 per cent.

We, in America, are threatened with a doctor shortage that may seriously undermine our standards of health, yet women are being held down by all kinds of subterfuges and prejudices that go back to the days of witch hunts! In contrast, women in the USSR are encouraged to become physicians and are instrumental in rapidly bringing Russian health standards to a universally high peak.

West Coast Exclusion Repealed

Important developments have occurred relative to the status of Americans of Japanese ancestry. The government formally ended the period of quarantine for Japanese-Americans, making it possible for them to return to their former homes. At the same time, the Supreme Court again confirmed by a 6 to 3 decision the right of the military to remove and confine citizens of this country in the interests of defense. The Supreme Court decisions, (both the Hirabayashi and Korematsu cases), however, made it clear that these American citizens of Japanese ancestry were not denied their freedom because of hostility to them as individuals or because of their racial stocks, but because of the emergency of war. However, speaking for the dissenting opinion, Justice Murphy said that the exclusion order goes over the very brink of constitutional power and falls into the ugly abyss of racism. So the issue, from a moral and democratic standpoint, fundamentally remains unsolved to haunt every sincere Christian mind.

The newspapers have been filled with wild stories of what different organizations on the west coast threaten to do to returning Japanese-Americans, but the papers have not told that the FBI is keeping close watch on these centers of hysteria and racial hatred. Some of the overheated patriots returned home suddenly, pale and sobered by the whispered information that "that good looking young fella who attended our meeting last night was an FBI man, and he told George, the chairman, that we'd better read up on the Constitution if we want to keep out of trouble," (quoted from an actual letter reporting a typical incident). So the FBI is prepared to protect American citizens of Japanese ancestry from other American citizens whose thinking and racial attitudes follow too closely the pattern of thought and action of Nazi racialism.

The colleges and universities of the west coast and many of the church bodies are quietly preparing to take the lead in the reception of those who choose to return to their homes from the relocation centers. The government has announced that every precaution will be used to control the release of the American-Japanese so that as little difficulty will be occasioned as possible.

The State Department

Our readers will remember that during 1942 and 1943 dependable Christian lay sources in Washington reported to us that the work and effectiveness of Cordell Hull as Secretary of State was grossly exaggerated for political purposes and that the State Department was badly organized, weak and ineffective in far too many of its relationships. Now that Mr. Hull has gone, Washington is talking openly about the drastic reorganization of the State Department which revealed that matters had reached a very low ebb indeed. This is a passing phase of which few citizens have been aware.

We regret to inform our readers now that the same dependable sources in Washington are reporting to us that, while the new Secretary of State is a friendly gentleman of fine presence and a most engaging smile, Mr. Stettinius is not considered to be well informed on foreign affairs and has been chiefly a "yes man" whom the White House finds useful because of his ties to big business. The conviction grows that Stettinius was chosen because of his implicit obedience to Roosevelt at a time when the President wanted a rubber stamp in the State Department who would never deviate from Roosevelt policies. Our final estimate of the new State Department, then, will depend upon our evaluation of the President's international policies.

"Meddling" in Bolivian Affairs

A report from Washington states that the new Assistant Secretary of State Will Clayton, the international cotton king, admitted before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee recently that he opposed writing into United States-Bolivian tin contracts a clause that would require the tin operators to obey Bolivian labor laws and to make sanitary and safety improvements. His reason for this opposition was that he "does not believe in meddling in the internal affairs of other countries."

Our State Department apparently does not see entirely eye-to-eye on the definition of "meddling." In current American-Bolivian negotiations the State Department has approved a proposal which grants an increase in tin prices **providing the Bolivian government promises not to increase the internal tax.** "Meddling" is condoned when it protects the profits of wealthy Bolivian tin barons, but is frowned upon when it means better living conditions for underprivileged miners!

The tin miners in Bolivia exist in the most wretched poverty. Starvation, bad housing and bad sanitary conditions prevail. These conditions resulted last year in violent uprisings in the tin mine regions. The uprisings were put down by brutal reprisals that brought death to many of the inhabitants and spread bitterness throughout the country. The disturbance eventually led to the downfall of the government in power.

The Bolivian government in its negotiation for the new tin contract asked for substantial price increases, promising that the increased revenue would be used to improve working conditions and to provide better housing, sanitary facilities and other improvements. It is strange to note that our State Department puts a stifling condition on a price rise so that, in effect, the Bolivian industrialists are protected from government taxation and the tin magnates become the sole beneficiaries of the price rise. Evidently the new State Department favors labor clauses in reverse—clauses that guarantee a minimum of improvement in labor conditions.

Government Cracks Down on Monopolies

Very few papers carried the following reports:

The Federal government has brought suit against Norden, Inc., maker of bombsights, for conspiracy to defraud the government by restricting the development and production of bombsights. The charges state that, in furnishing plans to other firms to assist in the production of bombsights, the Norden Company falsified and gave misleading specifications so that cooperating companies were unable to produce effective units—this while American fliers were waiting for bombsights to carry the war to the enemy. The Norden company officials, of course, deny all charges, but a Federal Grand Jury investigation preceded the indictment.

Nineteen steamship lines profited to the tune of $300,000 a voyage for hauling war cargoes from the United States to the Suez area. These cargoes consisted of materials designated for the British government and the payments for the shipments were made from lend-lease funds. The House Merchant Marine Committee, which brought charges against the shipping companies, blamed the Maritime Commission for setting up excessive shipping rates which enabled the companies to make such an exorbitant profit. Two of the steamship lines have refunded 51 per cent of their excess profits and the government is attempting to get refunds from other companies through court actions.

Seven powerful lead manufacturing companies, which control 90 per cent of the lead production and sale in the United States, have been charged with monopolistic and discriminatory price fixing. The Federal Trade Commission claims that The National Lead Company, Anaconda Copper Mining Company with its subsidiary, International Smelting and Refining Company, the Eagle-Picher Lead Company with its subsidiary, Eagle-Picher Sales Company, the Sherwin-Williams Company and the Glidden Company formed a conspiracy to maintain non-competitive price schedules, and to "hinder and lessen price competition."